



## **Bike Lane Safety Tips**



### **Safety Tips for Bicyclists**

- Traffic laws apply to bicyclists
  - stopping at red lights and stop signs
  - yielding right-of-way
  - signaling
  - ride with traffic, not against it
- Wear a helmet.
- See, be seen and be heard: wear reflective clothing, use blinking reflective lighting, and use a bell or horn.
- Ride right: when you ride to the right of traffic, drivers behind you only have to slow to your speed and they have much longer to react.
- Don't ride on the sidewalk: when you come off the sidewalk to cross the street you're invisible to motorists.
- Don't hug the curb: ride further left within the bike lane to avoid doors of parked cars, pedestrians walking between cars, and give drivers a better chance of seeing you.
- Pass on the left.
- Remember that motorists will cross the bike lane to park and pull in and out of driveways.

### **Safety Tips for Motorists**

- Look carefully for bicyclists before opening doors or before turning right.
- Safely merge toward the curb or into the bike lane.
- Do not overtake a bicyclist just before making a right turn. Merge first, then turn.
- Do not assume cyclists will ride as far to the right as possible. Smart cyclists plot a line straight down the roadway 3-4 feet from the curb or parked cars. This allows them space to avoid road hazards and to be more visible to motorists and pedestrians.
- Cyclists will enter into your lane in order to execute a left turn.



### **What is a bike lane?**

A bike lane is a portion of a roadway or the shoulder that has been designated by striping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

### **Bike and parking lanes.**

- The bike lane is located between the parking lane and the travel lane.
- Part-time bike lanes are those where parking is allowed during part of the day; at other times, parking is prohibited and the lanes are used by bicyclists.
- The striping of separate lanes for parking and biking encourages motorists to park closer to the curb. The striping discourages motorists from thinking that the shared bike/parking lane is in fact a travel lane for motor vehicles.
- Motorists are not allowed to travel or park in the bike lanes, but are allowed to cross them when turning or when entering or exiting a legal parking space or driveway.

